

# Heart Disease and Stroke in Missouri



## The heart of the matter...



In 2000 alone, hospitalization expenditures relating to Heart Disease and Stroke cost Missouri over \$3 billion.



Nationwide, costs related to Heart Disease and Stroke death and disability were estimated to reach \$298.2 billion in 2001. This amount reflects health expenditures (e.g., cost of physicians, nursing home services, medications, etc.) and lost productivity (indirect costs).



The cost to human life is also staggering. Between 1994 and 2001, heart disease and stroke claimed the lives of 173,659 Missourians. This is *more than* the entire population of the city of Springfield.



The cost of Heart Disease and Stroke impacts not only those who are disabled or die from the disease, but all Missourians. Heart Disease and Stroke costs everyone in terms of soaring health care costs and the high price of health and life insurance. We pay taxes to care for those affected individuals who are covered by Medicare and Medicaid. The more people we lose to Heart Disease and Stroke, the more Missouri suffers in terms of lost productivity, lost income, and therefore, lost taxes.



We often describe death as untimely when it claims the lives of men, women, and children who die before their time on our highways, or from overdoses, terrorist acts, or in war. Death and disability from heart disease or stroke is often untimely...and often preventable.

